

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SUVA 01484 180423Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PA-01 ICA-11 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 /047 W

-----017694 190148Z /66

R 180200Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7776

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL AUCKLAND

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, NH

SUBJECT: NEW HEBRIDES SITUATION - VANUAAKU PARTY

1. IN ADDITION TO ANNOUNCEMENT BY VANUAAKU PARTY REJECTING MINISTERIAL POSTS IN NEW HEBRIDES GOVT (REPORTED SEPTEL, EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED COPIES OF A LETTER WHICH VANUAAKU SENT NEW HEBRIDES CHIEF MINISTER KALSAKAU AND ANOTHER LETTER WHICH KALSAKAU SUBSEQUENTLY ADDRESSED TO FRENCH AND BRITISH.

2. VANUAAKS PARTY (OR PATI IN PIGEON ENGLISH) LETTER TO KALSAKAU STATES THAT VANUAAKU HAD BEEN WILLING TO CONSIDER ACCEPTING THE THREE MINISTERIAL POSTS BECAUSE THE CONDOMINIUM ASSEMBLY WAS GOING TO DELIBERATE THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL REFORM. WHEN THE ASSEMMLBY REJECTED A PROPOSAL FOR EARLY ELECTIONS, THE PARTY'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DECIDED NOT TO ACCEPT THE OFFER OF MINISTERIAL POSTS. LETTER STATES "SIR, IT IS ALSO INCUMBENT ON ME TO

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EXPRESS THE EXECTUVIE COUNCIL'S UNFAVOURABLE OPINION OF THE ASSEMBLY AND THE ADMINISTRATION WHICH YOU LEAD." LETTER CLOSES WITH EXPRESSION OF HOPE THAT DIALOGUE WILL REMAIN OPEN BETWEEN THE GOVT AND VANUAAKU.

3. IN HIS LETTER TO LORD GORONWY ROBERTS AND MR. PAUL DIJOU, CHIEF MINISTER KALSAKAU RELATES VANUAAKU REJECTION OF MINIS-

TERIAL POSTS AND GOVT'S ATTEMPTS TO COMPROMISE WITH VANUAAKU IN ORDER TO UNITE THE POPULATION IN THE TASK OF BUILDING A FREE AND INDEPENDENT COUNTRY. WITH REJECTION OF PROPOSALS, HOWEVERN KALSAKAU STATES, "NEITHER THE EMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS NOR I WILL TOLERATE THAT THE CONTINUATION OF A NECESSARILY INCONCLUSIVE AND UNFRUITFUL DIALOGUE SHOULD SERVE SIMPLY AS AN EXCUSE TO DELAY THE REALIZATION OF THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRAM WHICH THE NEW HEBRIDES GOVERNMENT HAS SET ITSELF." LETTER STATES THAT IF THE VANUAAKU PARTY WILFULLY OBSTRUCTS GOVT WORK, METROPOLITAN POWERS SHOULD TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER, STOP ALL THREATS AND UNLAWFUL ACTIONS AND ARREST PERSONS WHO COMMIT OFFENCES AGAINST THE LAW. SAYS KALSAKAU, "IT WOULD BE INCONVEIVABLE TO BOTH OUR COUNTRYMEN AND INTERNATIONAL OPINION THAT SUCH SUPPORT SHOULD NOT BE EFFECTIVE. I THEREFORE REPEAT MY REQUEST FOR FIRM AND EFFECTIVE ACTION IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC ORDER AND PROPER EXECUTION OF THE GOVERNMENT WORK PROGRAM DECIDED BY THE LAWFUL NEW HEBRIDES AUTHORITIES."

4. COMMENT: KALSAKAU'S LETTER SHOULD BE SEEN AS A CLEVER MOVE ON HIS PARTY TO DEFEND THE WRIT OF HIS GOVERNMENT EVEN IF HE HAS TO DO SO BY REMINDING THE CONDOMINIUM POWERS THAT THEY ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR LAW AND ORDER. TEXT OF BOTH LETTERS BEING POUCHED EA/PIA.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, NEGOTIATIONS, SELFCOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SUVA01484
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780339-0211
Format: TEL
From: SUVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780846/aaaabmip.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1688261
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW HEBRIDES SITUATION - VANUAAKU PARTY
TAGS: PINT, NH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/be46e360-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014